- 1		
1	STEVE W. BERMAN, WSBA No. 12536	The Honorable Fred Van Sickle
2	ERIN K. FLORY, WSBA No. 16631 HAGENS BERMAN SOBOL SHAPIRO LLP 1918 Eighth Avenue, Suite 3300 Seattle, WA 98101	
3		
4	(206) 623-7292	
5	BRADLEY B. JONES, WSBA No. 17197 KENNETH G. KIEFFER, WSBA No. 10850 F. MIKE SHAFFER, WSBA No. 18669 GORDON THOMAS HONEYWELL MALANCA PETERSON & DAHEIM LLP 1201 Pacific Avenue, Suite 2100 Tacoma, WA, 08402	
6		
7		
8		
9	Tacoma, WA 98402 (253) 620-6500	
10	ANAMED GEARING DAGEDAGE GOARD	
11	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON	
12	AT SPOR	KANE
13	In re METROPOLITAN SECURITIES LITIGATION	No. CV-04-0025-FVS
14		110. 6 1 01 0025 1 15
15	THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO:	ORDER PRELIMINARILY
16	ALL ACTIONS	APPROVING SETTLEMENT BETWEEN THE CLASS AND
17		DEFENDANT ERNST & YOUNG LLP
18		
19	Having considered the Meticus of M	Iomorandum of Disintiffs
20	Having considered the Motion and Memorandum of Plaintiffs, pursuant to	
21	Fed. R. Civ. P. 23, for an Order preliminarily approving the proposed settlement	
22	(the "Settlement") between the Class and defendant Ernst & Young LLP ("EY") in	
23	accordance with the terms and provisions of the Settlement Agreement dated	
24	February 22, 2010.	
25		
26		

ORDER PRELIMINARILY APPROVING SETTLEMENT - 1



11

12

1314

15

16

17

18

1920

21

22

23

24

2526

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

- 1. This Order incorporates by reference the definitions in the Settlement Agreement and the Judgment. Additionally, the following terms are defined herein: (i) "Non Settling Defendant" and "Non Settling Defendants" refer to those defendants other than Roth Capital Partners which or who were named in the Action as of January 1, 2010 other than EY (specifically, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, C. Paul Sandifur, Jr., Thomas Turner, Robert Ness, William Snider and Irv Marcus); and (ii) "Previously Settled Defendant" and "Previously Settled Defendants" refer to those defendants dismissed from the Action pursuant to the Court's Judgment and Order Finally Approving Partial Settlements filed October 6, 2006 (specifically, Robert K. Potter, Clayton E. Rudd, James V. Hawkins, Gregory S. Strate, Philip W. Sandifur, Samuel Smith, Bruce J. Blohowiak, B. Elaine Hoskin, Gary D. Brajcich, the Estate of Harold W. Erfurth, Reuel C. Swanson, William A. Smith, John T. Trimble and Erik E. Skaggs), and that defendant for whom a dismissal was preliminarily approved on February 16, 2010 (specifically Roth Capital LLP).
- 2. The Court has personal jurisdiction over all parties to the Action and the EY Action, including all Class Members and EY, and subject matter jurisdiction over the Action and the EY Action.
- 3. Without further order of the Court, the Settling Parties may agree to reasonable extensions of time to carry out any of the provisions of the Settlement Agreement.



- 4. In the interest of conserving expenses to the Class, pursuant to the terms of the Settlement Agreement, the Court shall defer approval of the form and manner of providing notice of the Settlement to the Class, and scheduling a hearing for final approval of the Settlement and Settlement Agreement (the "Final Approval Hearing").
- 5. The Court hereby preliminarily approves the Settlement, as embodied in the Settlement Agreement, as being fair, reasonable and adequate as to the Class Members, subject to further consideration at the Final Approval Hearing.
- 6. This Order shall become null and void, with the exception of the Bifurcation Order, and be without prejudice to the rights of the Settling Parties, all of whom shall be deemed to have reverted to their respective status in the Action and the EY Action as of February 7, 2010, if: (i) the Effective Date does not occur; or (ii) the proposed Settlement is terminated or does not become effective for any other reason. In such event, the Settlement Agreement shall become null and void and have no further force and effect, and the Settlement shall be without prejudice and none of its terms shall be effective or enforceable.
- 7. The Action is stayed as to EY in all respects until further order of the Court, except as may be necessary to implement and effectuate the Settlement and Settlement Agreement.
- 8. Pending final determination by the Court as to whether the Settlement, as set forth in the Settlement Agreement, is fair, reasonable and adequate and should be finally approved and whether the Judgment dismissing the Action and



the EY Action_with prejudice as to EY and whether an order barring any claims for contribution or indemnification against the EY Released Parties should be entered, no Lead Plaintiff nor any Class Member, either directly, representatively or in any other capacity, shall assert, commence or prosecute against any of the EY Released Parties any of the EY Released Claims in this Action, the EY Action or any other proceeding or forum. This injunction is necessary to protect and effectuate the Settlement, this Order, and the Court's flexibility and authority to effectuate the Settlement and to enter judgment when appropriate, and is ordered in aid of the Court's jurisdiction and to protect its judgments pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1651(a).

9. Pursuant to the Settlement Agreement and applicable law, any and all claims arising out of any claims under the federal securities laws released by the Class, including, but not limited to, any claims based upon, arising out of or relating to the claims or allegations that were asserted or could have been asserted by the Class in the Action, the Class Action Complaint, Consolidated and Amended Class Action Complaint, Consolidated and Second Amended Class Action Complaint, Consolidated and Third Amended Class Action Complaint, Consolidated and Fourth Amended Class Action Complaint, or the EY Action, (a) by any person against the EY Released Parties, and (b) by the EY Released Parties as to any Non Settling Defendant, are hereby permanently barred, enjoined and restrained. This bar shall apply whether or not the EY Released Parties are "covered persons" as defined in 15 U.S.C. § 78u-4(f)(10). Accordingly, without limiting the above, any person (including any Non Settling Defendant and all



persons purporting to act on his, its or their behalf and all persons purporting to claim by or through him, it or them, whether under a subrogation theory or otherwise) is hereby permanently barred, enjoined and restrained from asserting, commencing or prosecuting against the EY Released Parties any such claims, and the EY Released Parties are hereby permanently barred, enjoined and restrained from asserting, commencing or prosecuting against any Non Settling Defendant any such claims.

10. If any final verdict or judgment, or portion of any final verdict or judgment, under the federal securities laws is obtained by or on behalf of the Class or a Class Member against any Non Settling Defendant over matters for which EY would have been jointly and severally liable, as determined by the jury through special interrogatories allocating any liability for the expertised and non-expertised portions of the registration statements to EY, any Previously Settled Defendant and/or any Non Settling Defendant, then such final verdict or judgment, or portion of any final verdict or judgment, over matters for which EY would have been jointly and severally liable shall be reduced by the greater of: (a) an amount that corresponds to the percentage of fault or responsibility attributed to EY for the alleged loss to the Class or the Class Member as determined by the jury with regard to the portion of the judgment for which EY would have been jointly and



26

severally liable; or (b) the amounts paid by or on behalf of EY to the Class or the Class Member in connection with the Settlement Agreement.

11. The Court finds that the Settlement represents a reasonable and good faith settlement of all claims arising under state law, federal securities law, federal non-securities law and common law released by the Class under the Settlement Agreement and is sufficient to discharge the EY Released Parties from all such claims. The Court further finds that the EY Released Parties are entitled to protection to the fullest extent permitted by applicable state and federal laws from liability to third parties for contribution or indemnification or any other claim where the claimant's injury is the claimant's liability to the Class. These protections include, without limitation, those provided by WASH. REV. CODE § 4.22.060, CAL. CIV. PROC. §§ 877 and 877.6 and any comparable statute or common law of any other state (the "Additional Contribution Protections"). The Court further finds that, to the extent such Additional Contribution Protections apply, any Non Settling Defendant shall have any final verdict or judgment obtained by or on behalf of the Class or a Class Member against such Non Settling Defendant reduced according to the corresponding judgment reduction provisions applicable under such state law or federal non-securities law, including, but not



limited to, those provided by WASH. REV. CODE § 4.22.060, CAL. CIV. PROC. §§ 877 and 877.6 and any comparable statute or common law of any other state.

- 12. Pursuant to the Settlement Agreement and applicable law, any person (including any Non Settling Defendant, and all persons and entities representing them or otherwise acting on their behalf), is permanently barred, enjoined and restrained from asserting, commencing or prosecuting any claim under state, federal or common law against the EY Released Parties, however styled, whether legal or equitable, whether known or unknown, whether for indemnification or contribution or otherwise denominated (including without limitation claims for breach of contract or misrepresentation), where the claim is based on, arises out of or relates in any way to claims or allegations that were asserted or could have been asserted in the Action or the EY Action (the "Barred Claims").
- 13. Because the Non Settling Defendants, and all persons and entities representing them or otherwise acting on their behalf, are barred from asserting any Barred Claims against the EY Released Parties, any final verdict or judgment obtained by the Class or a Class Member against a Non Settling Defendant shall be reduced in accordance with the judgment reduction provisions under state law or federal non-securities law applicable to such Barred Claims.
- 14. In the event the Action proceeds to trial as to a non-settling defendant(s): (i) the Class may not use any finding, ruling, order, trial testimony, verdict or judgment or any attribution of fault or responsibility to EY, for any purpose whatsoever against EY in the Action or in any other proceeding or forum,



or for any other purpose; (ii) any finding, ruling, order, trial testimony, verdict or judgment or any attribution of fault or responsibility to EY, shall not be admissible for any purpose whatsoever as against EY in the Action or in any other proceeding or forum; (iii) any finding, ruling, order, trial testimony, verdict or judgment or any attribution of fault or responsibility to EY, shall not constitute collateral estoppel or res judicata as to EY in the Action or the EY Action or in any other proceeding or forum; (iv) EY shall not be estopped from challenging liability in the Action or the EY Action or any other proceeding or forum as if no settlement had been negotiated or entered into; (v) EY shall not use any finding, ruling, order, trial testimony, verdict or judgment for any purpose whatsoever against the Class in the Action or the EY Action or against the Class in any other proceeding or forum, or for any other purpose; (vi) any finding, ruling, order, trial testimony, attribution of fault or responsibility to any other defendant, verdict or judgment shall not be admissible for any purpose against the Class in the Action or the EY Action or against the Class in any other proceeding or forum in any litigation between EY and the Class; (vii) any finding, ruling, order, trial testimony, attribution of fault or responsibility to any other defendant, verdict or judgment shall not constitute collateral estoppel or res judicata as to the Class in the Action or the EY Action or against the Class in any other proceeding or forum in any litigation between EY and the Class; and (viii) the Class shall not be estopped from asserting the liability of EY in the Action or the EY Action or any other proceeding or forum as if no settlement had been negotiated or entered into.





- 15. This Order shall not be construed or used as an admission, concession or declaration by or against EY of any fault, wrongdoing, breach, or liability. Nor shall the Order be construed or used as an admission, concession or declaration by or against the Class Representatives or the Class, that their claims lack merit, that their damages are in any way limited, or that the relief requested in the Action or the EY Action is inappropriate, or as a waiver by any party of any defenses of claims he, she, or it may have.
- 16. The Class shall move the Court for an order approving and directing notice of the Settlement to the Class, and setting a Final Approval Hearing, no later than the earlier of either (i) final resolution of the Class's claims against the non-settling defendants in the Action, or (ii) June 15, 2010, or such continued date as the Class and EY may agree to in writing.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated this 25th day of February, 2010.

s/ Fred Van Sickle
THE HONORABLE FRED VAN SICKLE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

Presented by:

GORDON THOMAS HONEYWELL LLP

By /s Bradley B. Jones
Bradley B. Jones
Attorneys for Lead Plaintiffs and the Class

ORDER PRELIMINARILY APPROVING SETTLEMENT - 9



HAGENS BERMAN SOBOL SHAPIRO LLP

Attorneys for Lead Plaintiffs and the Class

By /s Tyler S. Weaver Tyler S. Weaver

ORDER PRELIMINARILY APPROVING SETTLEMENT - 10 HAGENS BERMAN

1918 EIGHTH AVENUE, SUITE 3300 • SEATTLE, WA 98101
(206) 623-7292 • FAX (206) 623-0594

001758-11 353041 V1